

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1. (currently amended) A planter receptacle ~~adapted to be mounted to a railing,~~
comprising:

a front wall;

a back wall;

first and second spaced-apart side walls, wherein

- a. said front wall is connected to said first and second side walls; and
- b. said back wall is connected to said first and second side walls, forming an enclosure with said front wall, said back wall, and said first and second spaced-apart side walls; ~~and~~

hanging means selected from the group consisting of:

chain;

cable;

rope;

wire; and

readily bendable line, and

stabilizing means for providing horizontal stability to said planter receptacle;

wherein said planter receptacle is adapted to be suspended by said hanging means from a railing comprising at least one vertical support member and at least one non-vertical support member, and whereby said hanging means can be attached to said at least one non-vertical support member and said stabilizing means can remain detached from said at least one vertical support member.

Claim 2. (previously presented) The planter receptacle of claim 1, further comprising: a bottom wall, wherein said bottom wall forms at least a portion of the underside of said enclosure formed by said front wall, said back wall, and said first and second spaced-apart side walls.

Claim 3. (currently amended) The planter receptacle of claim 1, ~~said railing further comprising at least one baluster, said planter receptacle further comprising:~~

~~means for stabilizing said planter receptacle with respect to said railing, wherein said stabilizing means at least partially surrounds said at least one vertical support member of said railing baluster and is attached to at least one wall of said planter receptacle.~~

Claim 4. (currently amended) The planter receptacle of ~~claim 3~~ claim 1, wherein said stabilizing means comprises:

at least a ~~first~~ one interior wall connected to said first and second spaced-apart side walls between said front wall and said back wall, creating

a first enclosure formed by said front wall, said ~~first~~ at least one interior wall, and a portion of said first and second spaced-apart side walls, and

a second enclosure formed by said ~~first~~ at least one interior wall, said back wall, and a portion of said first and second spaced-apart side walls, wherein

said ~~first~~ at least one interior wall, said back wall, and said portion of said first and second spaced-apart side walls at least partially surround said at least one baluster vertical support member of said railing when said planter receptacle is ~~mounted to~~ suspended from said railing.

Claim 5. (currently amended) The planter receptacle of claim 4, wherein said ~~first~~ at least one interior wall is substantially parallel to said back wall.

Claim 6. (currently amended) The planter receptacle of claim 4, further comprising:

a bottom wall, wherein said bottom wall forms at least a portion of the underside of said first enclosure formed by said front wall, said ~~first~~ at least one interior wall, and a portion of said first and second spaced-apart side walls.

Claim 7. (withdrawn) The planter receptacle of claim 4, further comprising:

a second interior wall connected to said first and second spaced-apart side walls between said first interior wall and said back wall, dividing said second enclosure, creating

a third enclosure formed by said back wall, said second interior wall, and a portion of said first and second spaced-apart side walls, and

an enclosure formed by said first interior wall, said second interior wall, and a portion of said first and second spaced-apart side walls, wherein

said first interior wall, said second interior wall, and said portion of said first and second spaced-apart side walls at least partially surround at least one baluster of said railing when said planter receptacle is mounted to said railing.

Claim 8. (withdrawn) The planter receptacle of claim 7, wherein said second interior wall is substantially parallel to said first interior wall.

Claim 9. (withdrawn) The planter receptacle of claim 7, further comprising:

a first bottom wall, wherein said first bottom wall forms at least a portion of the underside of said first enclosure formed by said front wall, said first interior wall, and a portion of said first and second spaced-apart side walls.

Claim 10. (withdrawn) The planter receptacle of claim 9, further comprising:

a second bottom wall, wherein said second bottom wall forms at least a portion of the underside of said third enclosure formed by said back wall, said second interior wall, and a portion of said first and second spaced-apart side walls.

Claim 11. (currently amended) The planter receptacle of claim 1, further comprising connecting means attached to at least one of said walls of said planter receptacle, wherein said connecting means enables engagement with said hanging means.

Claim 12. (currently amended) The planter receptacle of claim 11, wherein said connecting means is vertically adjustable with respect to said walls of said planter receptacle.

Claims 13 - 15. (canceled)

Claim 16. (currently amended) The planter receptacle of claim 1, wherein said hanging means enables said planter receptacle to be positioned at a variable height with respect to said vertical support member of said railing.

Claim 17. (currently amended) The combination of a railing and a planter receptacle, said railing comprising at least a top rail and at least one ~~baluster~~ vertical support member, said planter receptacle comprising:

a front wall;

a back wall;

first and second spaced-apart side walls, wherein

- a. said front wall is connected to said first and second side walls; and
- b. said back wall is connected to said first and second side walls, forming an enclosure with said front wall, said back wall, and said first and second spaced-apart side walls; ~~and~~

hanging means selected from the group consisting of:

chain;

cable;

rope;

wire; and

readily bendable line, and

stabilizing means for providing horizontal stability to said planter receptacle;

wherein said planter receptacle is adapted to be suspended by said hanging means from said top rail, and whereby said hanging means can be attached to said top rail and said stabilizing means can remain detached from said at least one vertical support member.

Claim 18. (previously presented) The combination of claim 17, further comprising: a bottom wall, wherein said bottom wall forms at least a portion of the underside of said enclosure formed by said front wall, said back wall, and said first and second spaced-apart side walls.

Claim 19. (currently amended) The combination of claim 17, ~~further comprising:~~

~~means for stabilizing said planter receptacle with respect to said railing,~~ wherein said stabilizing means at least partially surrounds said at least one vertical support member of said railing ~~baluster and is attached to at least one wall of said planter receptacle.~~

Claim 20. (currently amended) The combination of ~~claim 19~~ claim 17, wherein said stabilizing means comprises:

at least a ~~first~~ one interior wall connected to said first and second spaced-apart side walls between said front wall and said back wall, creating

a first enclosure formed by said front wall, said ~~first~~ at least one interior wall, and a portion of said first and second spaced-apart side walls, and

a second enclosure formed by said ~~first~~ at least one interior wall, said back wall, and a portion of said first and second spaced-apart side walls, wherein

said ~~first~~ at least one interior wall, said back wall, and said portion of said first and second spaced-apart side walls at least partially surround said at least one ~~baluster~~ vertical support member of said railing when said planter receptacle is ~~mounted to~~ suspended from said railing.

Claim 21. (currently amended) The combination of claim 20, wherein said ~~first~~ at least one interior wall is substantially parallel to said back wall.

Claim 22. (currently amended) The combination of claim 20, further comprising:

a bottom wall, wherein said bottom wall forms at least a portion of the underside of said first enclosure formed by said front wall, said ~~first~~ at least one interior wall, and a portion of said first and second spaced-apart side walls.

Claim 23. (withdrawn) The combination of claim 20, further comprising:

a second interior wall connected to said first and second spaced-apart side walls between said first interior wall and said back wall, dividing said second enclosure, creating

a third enclosure formed by said back wall, said second interior wall, and a portion of said first and second spaced-apart side walls, and

an enclosure formed by said first interior wall, said second interior wall, and a portion of said first and second spaced-apart side walls, wherein

said first interior wall, said second interior wall, and said portion of said first and second spaced-apart side walls at least partially surround at least one baluster of said railing when said planter receptacle is mounted to said railing.

Claim 24. (withdrawn) The combination of claim 23, wherein said second interior wall is substantially parallel to said first interior wall.

Claim 25. (withdrawn) The combination of claim 23, further comprising:

a first bottom wall, wherein said first bottom wall forms at least a portion of the underside of said first enclosure formed by said front wall, said first interior wall, and a portion of said first and second spaced-apart side walls.

Claim 26. (withdrawn) The combination of claim 25, further comprising:

a second bottom wall, wherein said second bottom wall forms at least a portion of the underside of said third enclosure formed by said back wall, said second interior wall, and a portion of said first and second spaced-apart side walls.

Claim 27. (currently amended) The combination of claim 17, further comprising connecting means attached to at least one of said walls of said planter receptacle, wherein said connecting means enables engagement with said hanging means.

Claim 28. (currently amended) The combination of claim 27, wherein said connecting means is vertically adjustable with respect to said walls of said planter receptacle.

Claims 29 - 31. (canceled).

Claim 32. (currently amended) The combination of ~~claim 31~~ claim 17, said railing further comprising a rail cap, wherein said hanging means is connected to said rail cap.

Claim 33. (currently amended) The combination of claim 17, wherein said hanging means enables said planter receptacle to be positioned at a variable height with respect to said vertical support member of said railing.

Claim 34. (withdrawn) A method for mounting a planter receptacle on a railing, said railing comprising a top rail and at least one baluster, said method comprising the steps of:

- 1) providing a planter receptacle comprising:
a front wall;

a back wall;

first and second spaced-apart side walls, wherein

- a. said front wall is connected to said first and second side walls; and
- b. said back wall is connected to said first and second side walls, forming an enclosure with said front wall, said back wall, and said first and second spaced-apart side walls; and

mounting means;

- 2) suspending said planter receptacle from said railing; and
- 3) mounting said planter receptacle to said at least one baluster of said railing, wherein said mounting means at least partially surrounds at least one baluster.

Claim 35. (withdrawn) The method of claim 35, wherein said step of suspending said planter receptacle from said railing further comprises the steps of:

- 2a) connecting a first end of a hanging means to said top rail; and
- 2b) connecting a second end of said hanging means to said planter receptacle, wherein said hanging means enables said planter receptacle to be positioned at a variable height with respect to said railing.

Claim 36. (withdrawn) The method of claim 36, said planter receptacle further comprising:

connecting means attached to said first and second spaced-apart side walls, wherein said connecting means is vertically adjustable to enable said planter receptacle to be leveled.

Claim 37. (withdrawn) The method of claim 36, wherein said hanging means is selected from the group consisting of:

chains;
cable;
rope;
wire; and
readily bendable line.

Claim 38. (withdrawn) The method of claim 35, said planter receptacle further comprising:

a bottom wall, wherein said bottom wall forms at least a portion of the underside of said enclosure formed by said front wall, said back wall, and said first and second spaced-apart side walls.

Claim 39. (withdrawn) The method of claim 35, wherein said mounting means is not attached to said at least one baluster.

Claim 40. (currently amended) The planter receptacle of claim 11, wherein said connecting means enables said planter receptacle to be positioned at a variable height with respect to said vertical support member of said railing.

Claim 41. (currently amended) The combination of claim 27, wherein said connecting means enables said planter receptacle to be positioned at a variable height with respect to said vertical support member of said railing.